



EXHIBIT 22
DATE 3/12/09
HB 645

Local Public Health Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Priorities/Suggestions

The Association of Montana Public Health Officials and the Montana Public Health Association strongly encourage your consideration for directing federal economic stimulus funds to the programs and services outlined below. Ensuring that dollars are available at the local public health jurisdictional level fosters direct care and services to **"assist those most impacted by the recession"** as stated in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Request: \$10,159,755 (\$5,079,877.50 in FY 10 and FY 11) over the biennium to be appropriated as follows:

- **\$3,249,878** to implement HB 309 – Foster care public health nursing services pilot program: these funds will be distributed to four counties (Cascade, Roosevelt, Yellowstone, and Missoula) based on ability to implement pilot program services, location in four regions of the state, and percent of foster children.
- **\$89,877** to implement SB 350 – Routine HIV Testing: these funds will support HIV diagnostic testing as a routine part of medical care as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Specifically, funding will cover those individuals on Medicare and CHIP.
- **\$1,000,000** to expand and implement HB 173 – Local public health sustainability: these funds allow 15 counties to compete for a total of \$60,000 (each) over the biennium to prepare for public health accreditation. Additionally, a total of \$100,000 is allocated to the Department of Public Health and Human Services to support the work of local public health and to add legislative oversight and involvement in making recommendations for improving the local public health system throughout the state.
- **\$5,820,000** to be distributed based on a per capita basis to each of the Montana local public health jurisdictions to provide services for people most affected by the economic downturn. Specifically, funding would enable local public health to deliver:
 - Access to primary preventative healthcare, immunizations, and well child screenings;
 - Outreach, assistance and referral for nutrition, housing and other social services;
 - Home visits, assessments, and case management to reduce health risks;
 - Enrollment assistance for Medicaid, CHIP, and health programs; and
 - Add or enhance school and daycare public health nursing capacity for vision, hearing, and developmental screenings.

AMPHO and MPHA look forward to our continued discussions and thank you for your leadership in moving local public health forward.